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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Franklin County Recorder's Office Warns Homeowners' of Scam

FRANKLIN COUNTY—Homeowners in Franklin County have been targeted in a scam that attempts to convince them they have to pay substantial service fees for information on their property. These scammers send out purposely deceiving notices that charge homeowners for publically accessible information they can receive for free or at a very minimal cost, depending on the service. Homeowners should be aware that they never have to go through a third party to receive their property documents. Attached to this release is an example of one of these “notices” that requests a resident to pay \$89 for a copy of a deed.

The Franklin County Recorder's office provides copies of deeds for free and certified copies for \$2 per page and \$1 for certification (a total of \$5 for a two-paged deed). An individual can also visit the Recorder's website at www.recorder.franklincountyohio.gov to search for property documents, free of charge. If any resident has questions or concerns, they can contact our customer service team from 8 am to 5 pm, Monday through Friday by calling (614) 525-3930.

Currently, there is legislation pending in the Ohio Senate, House Bill 52, which is backed by the Ohio Recorder's Association and seeks to regulate the solicitation of deeds in Ohio to protect consumers from such scams.

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